

THE LORD COKE HIS SPEECHAND Charge.

With a Discouerie of the Abuses and Corruption of Officers.



Printed for Nathaniell

Butter. 1607.

Latel English Comp WELLECH AKTOUN. Charge. -uda on la sireucolici e milyv. the fire and correspond of Officers. LONDON Printed for Ny partiels. Parties 1407



TO THE RIGHT

Honourable the Earle of Exceter, K night of the most Honorable order of the Garter: and one of the Lordes of his Majesties most Honorable privie Counsel.

R. P. wisheth all encrease of Honor and endlesse bappinesse.

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Ay it please your Hon. The observation which this world begets, may teach experience truly to report, that Loue and Charity are for the most part grovene so cold, e-

uen in the hotest Sun-shine of our Profession, as that despised Pouertie, though addicted to the Religious exercise of endeuors comendable, is in the best employment (which seemes with greatest Fauor to smile vpon his Hope) so coldly recompenced, as that poore unpitied deiected miserable Pouertie knovves neither Meanes nor Place how or where to vvarme it selfe.

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

Vnhappie I, in this best time of greatest happines, who being as I am a Poore dispised, hated, scorned, and vnrespected Souldier so vnfortunate as no commended meanes, though many vsed, with confirmation both of loue and Loyaltie, can bee of power from dispayres Guife, to raise a Spirit drowned, in worst of misery: but were I not indeered vnto those by heaven made mine, who are indeed, to me, the life, more deare from who there is no way to run, vnlesse in me, selfe being be disolved, I would affuredly by heauens assistance in some honest War vvithvse of Armes, give to my life so long as I should liue, a liuing maintenance: but novv Immured in my native home, vnseperably Toake vvith leane-fact pouertie. I haue experience to conclude that as it is most certaine Pax procreat Bellum, so is it no lesse true, that a cousirmed Peace, Non amat Fillios belli, yntill the hath need of them.

In this estate not knowing how to med my selfe, Religions Lawe shall make my resolution honest, & though Rerum condition nem mutare non possum, yet I will have power to say Hoc possum magnum sumere animam et wiro sorti dignum, with patience therefore

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The Epistle Dedicatorie.

shalmy grieued thoghts ioyfully be thrown vpo my makers providece by whose assistance I will still resolue with a constant Bosoe to persist in the prosecution of commended deedes, for this I know Spes mea, Christo

viuens, Est viuere vt semper viuam.

And thus, my Honorable Lord, having breathed forth a fight vnto the grace of your compassionate respect: I humbly craue your Honor will vouchsafe, to patronize in this little booke (by me coflected) not my ovene but the words of that reverend and learned Judge, the Lord (oke, who at his coming to Norwich, did at the Affifes there vpon the bench, deliuer a charge so exelent as that it vvorthyly deserves to bee continued in perpetuall memorie, vyhich being thus prodused to a publique view, I hope it shall vnto our Publickemeale remaine a worthy presedent, vyherein Romes champions may with shame decerne their long continued shame full practices, Puritans & Sismatickes learne to knowe with what minstice they disturbe the happinesse of our most happie peace, our Iustices, inferior officers, Iurors, and Commons generally, may in this booke find out commended documents, and instructios profitable as wel directing hove

The Epiftle Dedicatorie.

to gouernas to be gouerned : all which particulars the learned Tudge hath wifely hadled with such plausible Oratorical wisedomes e loquence, as that when I heard him speake, I thought the Poet had just cause to say, Profpera lux orritur linguisq;animisq; fauete: Nam dicenda bono sunt bona verba die. If therefore in this following worke my Memory hath giuen a true instruction to my pen, I hope my labour shalbe accourted profitable, when it administers a publique benefit.

Thus Right Hon. Earle, what I have herein performed, together with my most vnworthy selfe, I humbly referre vnto your Honoured vvisedomes consideratio, remai-

ted to a publique vieve, I hope in thall visto

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Your Honours in all humblenesse

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The Lord Coke, the Preface to his Charge given at the Assiles houlden in Norwich, the fourth of August: 1606.

Ecause I perceive the time hath more swiftly passed then I did expect: my strife and labour with my selfe, hath bin in my selfeto abreviate what I purpose to speak. And though

my speech shall principally bee directed to you of the Iurie, which are sworne. yet for that I know the scope and summe of my endeuours are solely dedicated to Gods glory, and my countries publicke benefit, I hope that all my words shall extend onto the generall good of all these here presents onto whom they are spoken. For I do purpose in my course, as it were with a singer to point

out those growing and groning euils, which doe not only for the preset time disturbe & hurt our Publique Weale, but doe also striue, and that with a most dagerous force, to deface, ruine, & vt-terly subuert the Honors of our auncient name, & our now great Brittaines Monarchie. But before the substance of my intended speech receives his purposed begining, I think it not amise first to begin with my selfe, and of my selfe to speake thus much.

There was a certaine young Romane, whose youth so directed his labours, with industrious care to attaine to knowledge by the reading and studie of good letters, as that the Senat of Rome amongst the selues determined to make that youg ma a ludge: therby with honored reputation to recopence the trauels of his youth, so to give encouragement onto other Romane Citizens by their good endeuors to attain onto like estate coredit in the government of Romes Publique Weale.

It happened that shortly after the determinatio by the Consuls & Senat agreed vposthe yong man vpon who the place of a Judge shold be coferred, coming vnto the knowledge thereof, fell prefetly into a deepe cosideratio with himselfe about the force & Office of that worthy place wher uto

be should be called. And first cosidered that in his owne opinio he was most vnfit: sufficietly to execute the substantiall and somtimes dangerous (though most comended duties) properly, beloging to so great a dignity. For this yong Roman hauing many Friends, Kinsfolkes, & Allies, some of the of such Rancke & Place, in the authoritie of governmet, as that their love or hate could not aptly draw vnto it selfe a light or trivial respect (amongst who) this your manthoght that coming to be aludge; time might vnhappely produce se such occation wherin his sentece, in the place of Iudgemet, might giue distaste, procure enemies, loose Frieds & gaine suspect of hatefull partia litie. From which corrupt & most impoy sonedewill, thogh this yong Roman did neuer somuch desire, to stand cleared, yet ludging amongst Friends, & Kinsfoolks, he Would affuredly (as he thought) by some detractors, be therof suspected.

The Romaine Cittizen having thus vnto himselfe presented divers Obstrictes and Objections, which could not in his owne sence receive sufficient contradiction, he resolved by no meanes to take vpo him the place and person of a ludge: but did vse all his Friendes and greatest power of meanes to perswade the Senate, to alter their determination concerning him, and to

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bestow so great an Office on some other, that

might more worthily deserve the same.

Whilest this young man continued in a disconsented passion, with purpose to desire some good advice, hee goeth vnto a faithfull friend of his, whom he acquainted with what the Senate purposed, and how loath he was to undertake so high an Office as to bee a Judge. His friend vpon hearing the cause, presently concluded, that bee had great reason to shun the execution of such an Office, in the discharge whereof, so much danger rested. For (said be) Caue ne sis Iudex inter Amicos because inter Amicos Iudicare, Amonst friends to judge, is a thing nothing more dangerous. And therefore hee constantly aduised, that in any wife hee should refuse such honor, though offered onto him: and rather be contented with a meane and privat life, then in such a place imployed : in which beeshould assuredly loose old friends, and get new enemies.

This young man (though thus by his friend aduised, and in himselfe resolved never to take vpo him any such, as hee accounted dangerous dignitie) yet who he vnderstood, that the Senat would not be altered in their purpose, but that by them the place was decreed vnto him, he then determi-

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ned with himselfe, to trie the counsell of some other friend, whose Iudgement and Experience might beare some generall note, in directing the high affaires to the State belonging. And in this purpose he went vnto a certain Nobleman, whose prudent wisdome had oft bin vsed in businesse of most weighty consequence: vnto whom, when hee had laid open his mind, shewed his griefe, and signified the Senats pleasure. The noble gentleman with pleasant yet grave alacritie of spirit (sear soned with the soundnesse of a learned and vnderstanding wisedome) did most powerfully aduise, that this young man should cheerefully accept so worthy an Office, being so freely bestowed vpon him. And that he should by no means seeme to neglect the gracious clemencie of supreme authoritie: Nor in any sort account it dangerous amongst friends to sudge: for in the Office and execution of Iudgement, he that is a Iudge Desinet esse Amicus (ceaseth to be a friend: for in the manner of judgement, no acquaintance, no griefes, no friends, no remembrance of fore-passed presentsor hope of future friendship must direct the thoughts of him that is a Judge. All that on judgements seat is done, must be, because Iustice commaunds the doing thereof, and that with no other

other affection, but only because it is just. And therefore said this Noble Gentleman Unto his friend, arme thy selfe, in the constancie of a conscionable prightnes, and be noe longer loath to execute the Honorable Office of a ludge, but in thy love to Romes Common-wealth, dedi-

cate thy laboures to her publique benifit.

By the grave and sage advice of that Hono. red Lord, this young man was perswaded contrarie to his former purpose, with humble thank sulnes to accept that Office, which the Senate without any meanes of his, was pleased freelie to be-Stowe vpon him: and yet generallie made shew as if he ment the contrarie. and soddainlie preparing a sumptuous Feast, vnto which he enuited all his Friends, Kinsfolke, and familiar acacquintace, seeming that in regard he did rather choose to leave his Countrie, then to take upon him the Office of a ludge: he had provided a Baquet or Feast, to Banquet with his Friends before his departure: and in some solemne maner would take leave of themall. Who being, as they thought, to this end affembled: did forrowfully expect the occation of their griefe, by the departure of their friend, which when the your man perceived, he spake thus vnto them.

It

It is true that I purpose as Imust, to take my leave of you all, and to bee a stranger to my dearest friends, and nearest Allies: I must forget all former friendships, and my most familiar Acquaintance, I must accompt as greatest stragers vnto me; Thus must I depart from you, & yet continue amongst you, for by the love, pomer of authoritie of the Senate, I am appointed to be a Iudge, and in the seate of Justice, I must forget the remembrance of your former friend-Ships and acquaintance, and onely in the person of a sudge, with respect to keepe my conscience cleare, I must with equitie & prightnes, iustly administer instice onto you all. And this is my cause, by the love to favour of my greatest mai-Ster King lames, in whose royall and gratious disposition I am, (Sinè precatione, vel precatio, without price or request, freely called vnto this great Office, by the fauour of my King) Vntowhose service, my life, and all I have is humbly bound, by him, and by his gratious Clemencie, I am thus sent to bee a Iudge amongstmy Kinsfolkes and familiar friends, euen in besome of my native ('ountry.

I must therefore as the young Romaine did, take leave of all former Acquaintance, & doe that

that which is iust vnto all Estates and Degrees, without partialitie. Which dutie (by
gods permission and assistance) I will faithfully performe, so long as God and my King shall
please: that in this place I bee employed in the
prightnesse and equitie of sudgement, shall
all my performance entirely consist. The contrarie whereof shall (as I hope) neither
be desired nor expected. And thus
much for my selfe.

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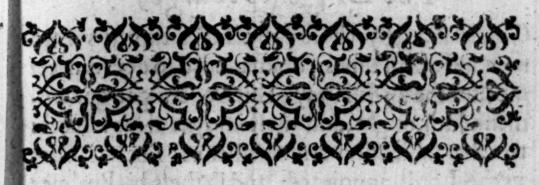
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S concerning the manner and Method of my charge, I will for order and memorie sake, extract or draw forth all that I purpose to speake, from sue words in his Maiesties Commission contained: the words are these; Quis,

Quibus, Quid, Quomodo, and de Quibus Quis, from whome the Commission commeth; Quibus, to whom it is directed; Quid, what it concerneth Quomodo, how it ought to be executed; and de Quibus, of whome, and of what causes, we are to enquire by vertue of the Commission vnto vs graunted and this last, De Quibus is of all the rest the greatest.

As touching the first word, Quis, whom or from whom our Commission commeth, that is, from the Imperial Maiestie of Greate Brittains Monarchie, our dread Lord, and Soueraigne, King James, the lawfull Heyre vnto our Kingdomes Throne: whose Princely Scepter is his proper owne, by a most royall and lineall discent. It is his

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Commission, by whose powerfull authority we are now and at all times commaunded to doe him servuice: for the awfull sway of his Soueraigne gouernment doth, ought, and must inioyne all his subjects to a due subjection and obedience; For he is ouer vs the Lords annointed, and in these his Realmes and Dominions, in all Causes, & ouer all Person, as well Ecclesiasticall as Civile, next vnder Christ Iesus our supreame Gouernour. Vnto his Highnesse then let our lives submission bend; let our faiths loyaltie dedicate it selse vnto his vertues praise. & for the long continuance of his Maiesties most hap pie, powerfull, and victorious Rule, let all good

subjects pray.

Now that I have spoken from whom our Commission commeth, the next word which doth direct my worke is, Quibus, To whom it is directed, that is To vs his Maiesties Instices of Assis, to whome by vertue of the Kings Gommission is given such power, as that in the administration of Iustice wee doe: represent the person of our King: So as if in the time of the Affifes one shall strike another in the prefece of the ludge, be it no more then a blow on the eare the Law provideth, That the offedor shall loose his hand, wherewith he gaue the stroake, because the offence was done as in the presence of the Prince: For the Law hath so much care to protect the person of a ludge: As that if a Iustice of Assise shall happen by any in his Circuit to be saine, the Law adjudgeth it to bee Lese Crimen Maiestatis An offence done against the Maiestie of the King, and

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given at Norwich Assises.

and is punishable, as in cause of Treason.

To shew the worthinesse of our Place and Office, you shall understand, that the Kings Maiestic at his Coronation is sworne to doe Iustice vnto all his Subjects, which in his owne Person it is imposfible to performe. And therfore his Hignesse is co. strayned by his Ministers, Deputies, Instices, and Judges, to administer lustice vnto all his people. Men therfore(in such place employed) ought with wonderous care, & conscionable diligence to discharge the trust in them reposed for vnto them, & into their hands, is (as it were) delinered the Kings owne Oath; because, what he is sworne vnto, must be by them in his behalfe performed. See then the dignity of Iustices and ludges of Assiles, Assignauimus vos Insticiaries nostros. We have assigned you our Iustices, and you may administer Iustice vnto our Subjects. Thus by the Kings Commission the Kings owne Oath is put into our hands: and at this instant (in the place and person of a Judge) my Soueraignes Oath into my hands is put: I (though his vnworthie Subject) am by his gracious clemen. cie Authorized (as in his owne person) according to his owne Oath, to administer Iustice voto you his Subiects: Which duty (by Gods affiltance) as I have vowed, I will faithfully performe: For if any (with a Kings Oath trufted) shall be so vilde, as to falsisie their trust, such offence is more then Capitall.

The Place of a ludge then, the greater that it is, somuch the more should their care be, to discharge

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the same, vpon whom so weighty an office and Ho norable Authoritie is bestowed.

From whom our Commission commeth, and to whom it is directed, hath bin briefly specified: I will now proceed, and thew out of this word Quid, what is in the Commission contained. Briefly therfore, it is that bounded limit, in which folely doth confift the Arength of our authoritie; beyond which compasse we are commanded not to passe: For it appointeth vnto vs the lustices of Alfiles, what it is that we must execute, as well in causes betwixt partie and pertie, as also the King and party depending. So as we are not onely to heare, judge, and determine, fuch Causes of Controversie, as shall by Writ of Nisi prius be tried, but also to examine, acquit, or condemne all fuch Prisoners, as shall for any offence against his Maiestie be brought before vs, to receive their Triall. So that by vertue of our Commission we have authoritie, as in the person of our Soueraigne, to judge in causes, that do concerne the life and death of the Subject.

That our Commission then is very Large, Ample, and Absolute, containing in it selfe a powerfull Authoritie, may by your selues be indeed. And to the ende, that lustice may by vs receive the more sull sound and perfect Execution. Our Commission, when it hath largely described vnto vs what wee may doe therein, it then most sweetely doth Appoint, Limit, and Command.

What manner of doing we must vse in those things

given at Norwich Affifes.

thinges appointed to bee done, so that it doth not only give vnto vs authoritie, what to execute but dooth also lay downe vnto vs the manner how out Authoritie must bee executed, and to the vnder-standing hereof, my next word Quemodo doth direct it selse.

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Weethen, the Iustices of Assises and Gaole. Deliuerie, are by his Maiestie appointed to administer Iustice vnto his Subiects; but Quomodo how, not according to our owne Will, Conceit or Opinion, but Secundum Legem & Consuetudinem Maneria Anglicana, According to the Lawe: Custome and Manner of England: Which Lawe, Custome, and manner must bee executed with Knowledge, Iudgment, Vnderstanding, and Equitie. For wee must knowe our selues, and Place wherein wee are: Wee must Knowe and Vnderstand each cause before vs brought, and according to our Knowledge and Vnderstanding, we must vprightly Iudge, according to Equitie, without (in the least sort) being drawne, by respecting either Person or Profite, to beare a Partiall Hand in the Execution of ludgement.

Partialitie in a ludge, is a Turpitude, which doth soile and staine all the Actions done by him. A ludge that will bee Partiall, will receive a Bribe, and such an one cannot by any meanes bee just, in his manner of ludging: Bribes, and Partiall dealing doth defile the Puritie of lustice, with great suspected Euill: For a ludge, if but in some things he be knowned.

no one Action done by him, tree from the suspect.

A sudge that for a Bribe will speake, and but once execute a suffice purchased, all his words & Actions for euer after may justly be suspected, though

neuer so vprightly done or spoken.

A ludge must vprightly, with an equall and indifferent eare and mind fully heare and vnderstand
each cause before he judgeth; otherwise, it is not
possible that justice should be justly executed: And
to judge in a point of difference, hearing but one
participeake, is assuredly to be vniust; for this sentence is directly true: Qui Indicat causam parte inaudita altera, Aguum licet, Statuat, Index iniquis est:
Who judgeth a cause for the one partie, not hearing the other, though what he doth, may stand to

be vpright, yet is the ludge vniuft.

Our auncient Fathers did in their Pictures and Emblemes oftentimes enclose a very great & substantial wisedome: Iustice (as you know) vseth ever to be painted with a sword in the one hand, and a paire of Scales or Ballance in the other; thereby signifying, That Iustice never strikes her stroke, till first the cause be weighed in the Ballance; her Blow comes not, vntill the weight of the Cause to be tried, hath by an vpright hand equally received sufficient triall: for then she knoweth rightly how to strike her stroke and not before; when the glory of her dignity shall receive persectious Honor, as well by protecting the Good, as in punishing the Bad.

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Me thinkes, that oftentimes when I ride by the way, I see the Effects of Instice rightly resembled, when I behold a River with a filuer currant, bounded in her equall course, with what just proportion the doth disperse her streames, without bewraying any little rage of intemperate violence. But if the passage of that streame be stopt; then how like a raging Sea, the ouer-flowes her bancks: and that then by an vnresisted force, the Meadowes, humble Vallies, weake and low growne Shrubs are drowned vp; enduring a recurelesse wracke, whilest Hills & Mountaines stand fate from feare of harme Euen so it fareth with vs. The equall course of Iustice being stayed, the poore & meaner fort of people they are ouerwhelmed with wrongs oppression whilest great & wealthy men, like Hils and Mountaines, build their Stations fure, being freed from any cause of griefe: Iustice with-held, only the poorer fort are those that smart for it.

Justice vnto all estates doth measure an even proportion to rich and poore, her metwand keepes an equal length, being sealed with the testimonie of vpright conscience. To Kings, Rulers, Iudges, and Magistrates, this sentence is proper Vos Dijestis, you are Gods on earth: when by your execution of Iustice & Iudgment, the God of heaven is by your actions presented: but if by vs, that so are called Gods Iustice and Iudgment be perverted; it wil bee heavy for our soules, when we shall dye like men.

Briefly, the office of a Iudge, is patiently to heare each party speake soberly; to answere or obiest directly

rectly; to see (as neere as may bee possible) each truth substantially produed: And then to Judge with an vpright heart according to Justice & Equi tie: Neuer in any one thing preferring Conclusion, before a conscionable, wise, and indicials Consideration. In which vprightnesse, the execution of Justice vsed by the Right Honourable (my most worthy Predecessor) in this place shall be an Ex-

ample, which I will defire to follow.

Of all the Morall vertues, Iustice (Queene like) is enthroned: for vnto her onely is a Throne afcribed, because her Execution doth neerest represent Heavens eternall Deitie. Iustice & Mercie are inseperable Vertues; Mercie and ludgment, as it was Righteous King Davids, and lately our good Queenes, heavenly Elizabeth: so it is nowe vertuous King James his Song, in whose princely breast Mercie and Judgment are more gloriously vnited. And to the end, that I his Subject, and in his place his Substitute, and you his Subjects may execute Iustice as wee ought, I will nowe out of my last word, de Quibus, declare vnto you, of whome, and of what Causes we are to enquire, that Iustice and Iudgment may thereby receive a more cleare and powerfull Execution.

Those then of whome we are in the first place to enquire, are such, by whome our King is most disobeyed, his State disturbed, and Kingdomes threatened: Whereof (if you consider) it will be evident, That all those growing and desperate e-tempting euils, by which, wee are most proudly

given at Norwich Assis.

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menaced and Aflicted, doe principally proceede from three forts of Reculants living amongst vs. Of all which, the Popils Recusant is the most dangerous with our English Romanists, will I therefore at the first begin, and in the discription of their Actions and practises, I do desire that my wordes may bee entertayned with your best Attention.

Our Worldes Admired Queene Renowned Elizabeth, did (as you know) in the beginning of her Raigne, change the State of Religion in this Kingdome in her first Parliament, by the consent of her Lordes Spirituall and Temporall, being especially by the Lord of Heauen direded, Errer, Popish blindenesse, and Faithlesse constitutions grounded vpon Humaine Tradtiv were ex inct. And Religions Puritie according to the Lawe of Faith, was Reestablished, beeing built upon the vnremoued foundation, of the alone Authenticke word Canonical. The bookes of the olde and newe Testament, from the trueth whereof, Thee did alwaies direct the courle of her to happie and Tryumphant Goernment.

Notwithstanding, the Change of Religion, it cannot bee denyed. That for the first tenne veeres, of her Maiesties Raigne, the estate of Romaine Catholique in England was Tollerable, though some were Committed in the beginning of her comming to the Crowne, yet mone but those whose precedent Actions, had caused D

the faith of their Allegience to remaine doubt. full, and so was the manner of their commitment mixed with such gratious Clemencie. As that they rather endured a fauourable restraynt, then any straight or rigorous imprisonment, But as well those so restrayned, as generally all the Papists in this Kingdome, not any of them did refuse to come to our Church, and yeeld their formall Obedience to the Lawes established. And thus they all Continued, not any one refuting to Come to our Churches, during the first tenne yeares of her Maiesties gouernment. And in the beginning of the eleuenth yeare of her Raigne, Cornewallyes, Beddingfield and Silvarde were the first Reculants. They absolutely refusing to come to our Churches. And vntill they in that fort began the name of Recufant, was never heard of as mongst vs.

In the beginning of the eleventh yeare, when three Reculants were onely in this Kingbome to bee found. In the same yeare, Pope Impius, though abusiuely surnamed Pius Quintus, his Hell ishnesse was informed by some of our English Iesutes, that such was the number of Romaine Catholiques here in England, as that it his Horriblenesse would denounce an Excommunication against the Queene there was in this Realme and Kingdome, a power Catholicall which would presently upon an instant be in redinesse, to enter into open hostilitie with force sufficient to depose, and utterly to supplant

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Pope Impius of that name the firste, vpon the Information specified the better to seuer his hope in his good meaning to this Kingdome, presently plotteth with the King of spaine for a suddainc inuasion upon the present Excommunication of the Queene. And to this end one Robert Rodulphy agentleman of Florence, was fent by the Pope, vnder colour of Marchandize, to sollicit a Rebellion amongst vs: and gaue order vnto him for the receiving of one hundred and fiftie thousand Crownes, to let forward this attempt. And Phillip King of Spaine, by the instance of the Pope, had determined to fend the Duke of Alna into England, withall his forces in the Low Countries, to affift fome great men amongst vs, who ever by the Pope Soilicited, to be the principall Agents in a most Rebellious enter prise, vnto whom some of the one hundred and fiftie Thousand Crownes was delivered, and some other part sent into Scotland for the like effect.

Thus as you have heard even at the same time, when her Maiestie the late Queene, delt most mercifully with the Papists, did the Pope with them conspire to worke her ruine, and this Kingdomes Overthrow, secretly complaining how on suddaine they might bring vppon vs Destructions, Spoile, and generall Desolation, when our then Soveraigne, that Queene of Vertue, knowing she had deserved no such easil, did not in the least fort suspect any such danger.

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The Pope having as he thought fuerly establish. ed the foundation of his hopes: He then Denounced the Excommunication against the Queene which was not vnto her self made known, vntil the intended Rebellion in the North brake forth a little before Christmas, in the yeare 1569, being the twelfth yeare of her Highnesse Raigne, and then it was known, that the Pope had Excomunicated her Maiestie. And therby freed her Subiects, as the Bull imported, from their Subjection and Obedience. But God was pleased that the Popes Bull was so Baited, as that the Rebellion by it procured, was fodainly suppressed: For the Pope whose labor is to defend Lies, was himselfe deceived with a lie, for the strength of the Papists here not being such as was enformed, The true harted Protestants taking parte with their Soueraigne, did quickly Cut the Throats of our English Romaines, driving some of the heads of that Rebellion, vnto a shamefull flight, and brought the rest by our Lawes Instice, to a Thamefull death.

Her Maiestie in the thirteenth yeere of her Raigne, having made the Law before specified, the very next yeere following, our commeth Sanders booke De Visibili Monarchya, wherein he plainely setteth downe how the Pope had sent over Morton and Web, two Priests before the sayd Rebellion to the Lords and Gentlemen in the North, to Excite them, with their followers, to take vp Armes, signifying vnto them the Popes Comman-

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dement: Alledging, That her Maiestie being excomunicated, Her Subiects were relesed from
their Obedience. And therfore he doth Directly
Instifie the sayde Commotion. Ascribing the euill successe thereof to the late publishing of
the sayde Excommunication. Because it was not
generally knowne, vntill the yeere after it was
Denounced. When Felton had set it vpon the
Bishop of Londons gate. Affirming that if it had
beene published the yeere before, or when the
Rebels were in Armes, they had assuredly preuailed against the Queene, and executed the sayde
Sentence at the same time, for her deposing from
the Crowne.

Thus Trayteroully with more then Brazen Insolence, did that Traytor Sanders spit out his poysoned venime. Thereby desiring to corrupt the hearts of her highnelle Subiects, and to make them fit for a newe Rebellion, which course by him taken, was Immitated by Parsons, and many other to the like effect. Who ceased not by their Hereticall and lying Pamphlits, with most Trayterous impudencie, to abuse her Maiestie and the State. And not thus contented, in the yeare one thousand five hundred seventie and nine, Stukely affilted by Sanders, and other Catholickes, both English, Irish, and Italian, with the Popes Commission, entred into Ireland. The Pope himselfe, in the furtherance of that Course fending thither certaine forces vpon his owne Charge, Whilest all that time, her Maiestie that D 3 Queene

Queene of mercie was so farre from beeing mooued, as that with Patience, shee endured all these Iniuries, onely inforcing that one Lawe, which as you have heard, she most justly made a-

gainst them.

Whilest Ireland by the Popes procurement remained in combustion. It happened that Pius Quintus died, and Gregorie the thirteenth succeeded in his place, who presently Reneweth his Predicesfors former Bull, and denounced her Maiestie to bee Excommunicated, with Intimation of all other particulers in the former Bull mentioned, which done, there was by him sent ouer into England. Campion and Parsons, they came vnto vs in the yeare one thousand five hundreth and eightie, there comming was to alienate the hearts of her Maiesties Subiects, from their due obedience: and to make a partie strong to depose the Queene, ioyning with the Pope, and King of Spaine, by whom there was then an intended preparation against vs. But the attempts and practises of them both at that instant failing in England. The Pope as a Temporall Prince, displayeth his Banner in Ireland, with purpose to deprive her Hi hnesse. First from that Kingdome, and then by degrees to depose her from this. Notwithstanding so mild was the proceedings of her Maiestie against them, as that there were in the space of ten yeares, not much aboue twelue persons,

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that were by the Iustice of her Lawes adjudged to die, and the most of them Semenaries, and all of

them Conuicted in causes of Treason.

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Her Maiestie when she heard of the second Excommunication, and had seene what followed in her Kingdome vpon the first. She was then in all Christian Pollecie enioyned to preuent the fuccesse of dangers imminent. Her Highnesse therefore, in the yeare one thousand five hundred eightie and one, caused a Proclamation to bee made for the calling home of her Subjects from beyond the Seas, such especially as were Trayned up in the Seminaries, perceiuing that they learned nothing there but disloyaltie, & Treason. And prefently after this her Proclamation, she called a Par liament, wherein a Lawe was agreeable in effect to the faid Proclamation, enforced with a penalty of death, for any lesuite or Seminarie Priest, to repaire into England, and for any to receive or intertaine them, thee would willingly that those of such profession, should keepe themselves without the Lymits of her Kingdome.

But if against her will, they would come into her Land to fow the feed of the Sedition, & Rebellion amongst her Subiects, and to lay their plots how to supprize her life, and to make a way for Forraigne Enemie, with bloody handes to enter vpon her Dominions. And by Hostill Inualion to bring her Kingdomes to distruction

tion, and to expose her people vnto the Slarie of a seruile yoake. What should her Maiestie lesse have done in the prevention of such a Lamentable euill, but to hang up them that were the principall A cors in so bloody and Tragicall 2

Tyranny.

From the yeere eightie one, to eightie eight, her Maiestie was not free from Continuall Trayterous and Rebellious practises, desperately attempted against her life, or intended subvertion of her Kingdome. First the Popes forces beeing overthrowne in Ireland, the Pope and King of Spaine, presently ioyned with the Duke of Guise, for the executing of a most desperate designment against her Maiestie. Ar den and Somervilde, would have laid violent hands upon her sacred person. Doctor Parrie intended the like villanie. Northumberland revolted from his obedience. Mendoza the Iesuite, and others of that Crue or Sect, appointed by the Pope to order & Mannage these develoss designments.

In the yeare eightie, to forerunne the purposed Spanish Inuasion, against which time Campion, Parsons, Haywoode, and all the Iesuites and Seminaries, had so besturred themselves. There is certaine bookes printed beyond the Seas, sent ouer into England, therby to prepare the hearts of our people, to ioyne with Spaine, and to take vp Armes against their Soueraigne, with perswasions grounded

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grounded vpon this position: Viz. That in all warres which may happen for Religion: every Catholike man is ioyned in conscience to imploy his person and forces by the Popes direction, that is, how far, when, where, who how either at home or abroad, he may and must breake with his temporall Soveraigne, and that upon paine of deadly sinne. Vpon a foundation so diabolicall: What fruits other then divellish can be expected? And yet, do but surther note how damnable a spirit is in their

bookes and writings bewrayed.

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All the Papists in this kingdome, were most violently perswaded, that vpon the Spanish inuasion, they should all joyne their greatest force with Spaine. It was in them accounted an error of conscience, want of courage, and effeminate dastardie, that they had suffered her Maiestie almost thirtie yeares to raigne ouer them. They were threatned with Excommunication, and vtter ruine, both of themselues and their posteritie, if they did any longerobey and defend, or acknowledge her highnes to be their Queene or superior, and did not foorthwith joyne their forces to the Spaniards. And to the end, that this most godlesse, trayterous, inhumane and vnnaturall appointment, by subjects to their lawfull annointed Soueraigne, and natiue countrey, might receive the better acceptance. There was vsed a most infinuating, though faithlesse manner of perswasion, guilded ouer with a see. ming shew of Holinesse: (For thus,) our English Romane Catholikes were promised) That in the king of Spaines army, there were diverse Priests ready to serne euerie

enerie mans spirituall necessitie, by confession, counsell, and all consolation in Christ Iesus, and that they should be so assisted by the blessed patrons, both in heaven, in earth, with the gard of all Gods holy Angels, with our blessed Saniour in the soueraigne Sacrament, and with the daily, most holy Oblation of Christs owne deare body and bloud. As that it could not fall out otherwise, but that they should assuredly prevaile: Hereby may the world perceive in what Angelike manner of brightnesse Popish doctrine can suite treasons

damnable, euen as blacke as hell.

You have heard what preparation was prouidcd by the Pope and Papists, for the furtherance of Spaines intended inualion, wee will now proceed to matter of action. And but call to our remembrance (that euer to bee remembred) powerfull worke of God:) for our deliuerance in the yeare 88. The king of Spaines Armado, that admirable, &c warlike nauie, so well furnished with valiant souldiers, and all munition fit for warre, when fuddenly wee were in danger by a Potent enemie to be furprised, when her late Maiesties Royall Nauie, was scarfly put foorth to sea. And the best ships of strength not fully furnished with shot and power der, as was necessarie in so weightie a businesse: yet to the neuer dying glory of a maiden Queene. fuch was her princely power, although at lea but in part vnprouided, as that by the loue and grace of heavens eternall providence, her Maiestie by a most noble Battell at sea, euen in the presence of her kingdoms Territories, did vtterly difperfe and

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ouerthrow, that surnamed inuinceible Spanish nauie, so that not any Spaniards floate, (vnlesse
brought captine could arrive) vpon her Englands
shoare. Nor but verie sew of their so much admired sleete of shippes, returned to their natine
home. Thus did God on Queene Elizabeth beslow a glorious victorie, euen in the despite of
Pope, Papist, trayterous Iesuites, Seminaries,
Monkes, Friers, and all the rablement of that Antichristian See.

The power of Spaine, was brought against vs, by the procurement of our English Papists, and what recompence was intended for them, in the charity of their catholike profession may appeare, by that which the Duke of Medina Sidonia affirmed, which was, That both Catholickes and Heretikes that came in his way, should be allone to him, his sword coulde not discerne them, so hee might make way for his maister, all was one to him. Thus did Papists, as still they doe, desire to worke our downe fall in the certaintic of their owne destruction.

God hauing shewed his loue to our late Queen and Kingdome, by that wonderfull deliuerance before described: The Pope to further his accustomed indeuors, practised with Spaine, about a new inuasion, and the better to bring his purpose to passe: Parsons, that auncient Iesuite, and most notorious traytor vnder the Pope, chiefe gouernour of all the Iesuites, (principall enemies to Iesus,) was placed in the Spanish E2 Court,

Court, by whose perswasion there was a new Seminarie crected at Valedolyde, from whence in three yeares, there was fent thirteene priests into England, to prepare a passage for the new intended inuafion. Whereupon in the yeare 1591.a Proclamation went forth for the apprehending of all fuch Priests or Seminaries, as should come from Spaine. Because their intention was knowne vnto the State here. But to the end the Diuell (the Pope I should say) might want no instrument for the effecting of murthers, treasons, and rebellions, by Parsons procurement, more Seminaries were erected in Spaine, (and England still troubled with Romes trayterous disciples. But the new inuasion being twife set on foote, Goddid so warre against their purposes, as that their prepared Navie was at fea, dispersed by stormes, so as most of them endured shipwracke.

That expectation failing, then was the Infant of Spaine intituled to the Crowne of England: (and to that end, sundry bookes disulged) Queene Elizabeth was by them accounted a tyrant: more tyran nicall then Nero, Decius, Dioclesion, Maxentius, or any the greatest persecutors of the Christians: Not thus contented, from the yeare 88. to the yeare 99. there were continual treasons practised against the Royall person of her late Maiestie, Patricke, Collen, Lopez, Yorke, Williams, Squire, all attempting to

murther her Highnesse.

All these attempts, plots, proiects, & trayterous stratagems, taking no effect. Then was there from

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the Pope a new Bull sent, wherby the Papists were commaunded to vie a formall maner of obedience, vitill they might grow to be a strength sufficiently strong to depose the Queene. Which expectation on once accomplished, then had they power by the said Bull to take vp armes against her. Thus they neuer lest cotinuall practising, vitil a little before her Maiesties death: about which time, by some of the principall Agents, in the last most horrible treasson, there was complotted another Spanish inuation: For the accomplishing wherof, the yonger VVinter was a messenger vito the King of Spaine, and Gujdo Famkes vito the Pope, and a third was

imployed to the Archduke.

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The King of Spaine at that time beeing our enemie, entertained VVinters motion, with most kinde acceptance, protesting that the English Catholiks should bee as deare vnto him, as his home-borne Castillians, and in loue to the intended businesse, vowed in the word of a King to defend their fafety, (all which, as fouldiers fay) with pollicie in warre he might do) beeing then our enemy. But it is a matter cleane out of my Element, and therefore I will dispute no further about it: But the Counsell of Spaine holding a conference about the mannaging of the plot by Winter layd. It was obiected that there would be want of horse for such a businesse. Whereupon VVinter vndertaketh to furnish them with a certaine number, and receiveth gold to that end. At last the purposed designement being embraced with a generall confent, a fouldier flanding.

standing by, being some Commander, a Captaine, or such like, ruffles out this souldier like Latine, Nunctempus pro nobis erit aliquid obtinere: Now hall it be time for us to get something. But in the middest of this intended preparation, it happened, that her Maiestie Royall, and most gracious Elizabeth died: And our now Imperiall Soueraigne King James, did both inherite her kingdomes and her vertues.

His maiestic beeing with peace established in his royall feate, the king of spaine would no long. er embrace his former purposed appointment: Nor would consent, that any thing should against a King bee plotted, with whome hee ueuerhad warre: Nor by whome he neuer received any in. iury. So as our Papists were in that behalfe dismissed of their expected hope: and enforsed to feeke out some other meanes; and now I will bewray a secret (I am sure not generally knowne.) In the discourse whereof I doe desire attention.

Pope Clement the ninth, who was accounted the last best of many Popes, (all notwithstanding being naught. He vnderstanding Spaines purpose, as before is specified, concerning an inualion, suppoling that the Queene might die before that bufinesse tooke effect: And foreseeing vnto whome these kingdomes should of right descend, sent secretly a Bull into England, which was so clolely concealed, amongst our Papistes heere, as that her Maiestie in her life time, knewe not thercof

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thereof. (For if she had) I am sure, that by reason of mine imployment neare vnto her, I should have heard if she had knowne any such thing. But assuredly both her selfe, and the State, were ignorant thereof.

But now this Bull being brought to light (which my selfe have seene and read) it importes thus much. Quando contingeret illam miserimam Elizabetham mortuam esse, That when that miserable wench Elizabeth should bappen to die, Tunc nos volumus, Then we will, that all and everie of you, do vie your best and Vttermost endeuors, quibuscung; modis or vis, by what strength or meanes so ever to keepe out the Scottish Heretike, that in any wise he may not be admitted to the kingdome of England, vnlesse he would reconcile himselfe to Rome, and hold his crowne of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his subjects to the religion of the Roman Church: this Bull vntill Garnet was taken, slept in England, beeing silled with a most proud, scornfull and Trayterous bouldnes.

When that miscrimum saminame, Miserrble woman or wench Elizabeth shall dye, had the papall
proude vsurper, no other atribute to bestowe
vppon a Queene then Miserable wench: shee lived
Renowned through all the Corners of the
world, shee ruled in peace, beloued of all her Subiects, vnlesse those insected with the Romane Leprosie, she was admired, & seared, confronting all oppositions, with vndoubted considence, shee was a
Prince potent enough, to defend her Kingdomes,
and to helpe her Neighbours being oppressed
with

with glorious victorie she beat spaine from off her coasts, and risted him in the bosome of his owne kingdome, wrapping his townes and shippes in cloudes of re and smoake. She swaied the Roiall Scepter of her kingdomes government with triumphant victorie; maintaining peace amongst her people, euen in the worlds dispight, 44 yeares her vnmatched wisdome, and vnconquered prowes crowned her the peereles wonder of her fexe: The liu'd and died a Queene, her life beloued, and her death lamented: And yet for all this, was she no more in the Popes account, then a miserable wench. Let the Popes pride finke to hell: whilest heavens Elizabeth (whose blessed soule from earth to heauen is taken) doth, and shall with God and Christ for euer liue in the heavenly glorie of eternall happinesse.

Pope Clement the ninth, having by his Bull, as before specified, given commaundement that the Papists should by all meanes how so ever withhold our now Soveraigne from his lawfull right. (And notwithstanding that Rebellious Commission,) his Maiestie being with great ioy peaceably enstalled. Peersie & Catesby went vnto their great Provincial Garnet, & of him enquired, whether the king being as he was already established, they might by vertue of the Popes Bull, vse any meanes to supplant or depose him, considering they were not of force to withstand his comming at the first. And Garnes answered, that vndoubtedly they might, whereupon they presently resolved to put in execution

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of, vntill that time, was neuer to the world repor-

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Some are of opinion, that if a tolleration of religion had bin admitted vnto the Papilts:that then no fuch bloudie stratagem should by any of them haue bene practifed. But if you thall confider the tenor of the Popes Bull, you may then perceiue, that their request of indifferent Tolleration was but a colourable pretence in them. For that might not have served the turnes: For they were enjoyned to worke his Maiesties ouerthrow, vnlesse hee would reconcile himselfe to Rome, hold his Crown of the Pope, and conforme him elfe and all his sub. iects to the Religion of the Roman Church: It is not then a toleration only which they feeke, nor could they have beene contented therewith (although fo much shall never be graunted vnto the.) They may therefore easily despaire of the rest (though they the Pope and the Diuell) doe neuer so much conspire to bring their Hell borne practises to passe.

As touching the last horred treason, by inhuman sauages complotted: I knowe not what to speake, because I want words, to describe the trayterous, detestable, tyrannicall bloudy, murtherous villany of so vilde an action. Onely this had their horrible attempt taken place. This Sea Inuy-conde ylande, the beauty, and wonder of the world. This so samous and farre renowm'd great Brittains Monarchy, had at one blowe endured a recourselesse ruine, beeing ouerwhelmed in a sea of

bloud,

bloud, all those euils, should have at one instant happened, which would have made this happiest kingdome of all kingdomes, the most vnhappy. Our conquering Nation, conquered in her selse: her faire and fertile bosome, beeing by her owne natiue (though foule vnnaturall children) torne in peeces, should have beene made a scorne to all the nations of the earth. This fo well planted, pleasant, fruitfull worlds, accounted Edens paradise thould have beene by this time, made a place difconsolate, a wast and desert wildernesse, generally ouerrunne with heards of bloud-defiring wolues. This so well gouern'd, Populous, potent Monarchy, had in one moment beene left without either King, Queene, Prince, State, Nobility, Law, Inflice, or. any strength of government, sodainly had we then beene throwne noronely to the cruelty of civill warre, that too too murtherous Domestick spoyling enemie: But also even in that instant generally have beene exposed vnto the all-devouring hand offorraine Enemies, in our Congregations, the fongs of Syon had no more beene fung: But in their steed had bin brought vnto vs the songs of Gehenna. fent from Rome: that Sathans synagogue, all our best fredoms liberty, had by this beene turn'd into the worst bondage of most slauish servitude: Papists Romane Catholicks, that would have wrought all our destructions thus; Should not Iustice, iustly then commaund their actions chiefly to be enquired of.

If what hath beene spoken be vnto your memories,

ries committed, you may then consider, that from the eleventh yeare of Queene Elizabeths Raigne, vntill the third yeare of our now Soueraignes gouernement, the Papists have continually labored to advance the supremacie of the Romane Church, which to accomplish they have contended thirtie foure yeares, in which time they have not omitted to practife Treasons and Rebellions only amongst vs here at home. But have also complotted to bring upon vs Forraine Inualions, & that from time to time, fo soone as they were dismissed of one hope, they presently set on foote some other proiea: both at home and abroad, and still being by the loue and mercie of God towards vs continually preuented: At last, taking counsell with hell, and Sathan, they had practifed a most hellish attempt, wherein their Diuellishnesse brought it felfe nearest to the nature of the Diuell, making fire and brimstone the instruments of our destruction. And though the principall Actors of that cuill, have thereby themselves destroyed: yet the former experience of their continuall attempting may give vs warning, that they will not yet ceafe to attempt, and though that Ie fuites and Seminaries haue beene the principall Agents in all the feuerall complotted treasons, and that the Papilts amongst vs cannot generally be accused, yet thus much I must say, those persons, and that Religion whereby Iesuites and Seminaries are received, protected and concealed, are equally to be accounted dangerous, for were there not such receivers a-

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amongst vs, Romes state, Traytors would not so fast come, swymming from Tyber hither to arrive at Tyborne. Onely I conclude, therefore, that if in great Brittaine, there were no Papists, this Mornar. chy should be as free from treason as any Nation in the world.

But now deare Contrimen, seeing you have heard what godlesse and dangerous practise, have continually by Romes sauorites beene plotted against vs. I desire that with attention, you wil vnderstand what it is (as they say) for which with such vehemency they contend. The world is made believe, that the advancement of Religion is the onely cause for which they strive, wherein they iowne themselves vnto the Pope, because there is no religion good, but that which is by the Pope allowed, wherein my purpose is to binde all Papists vnto their owne affertion.

That Pius Quintus whome those of their side doe account to have beene a good Pope (though by false perswassions too much missed) before the time of his excommunication against Queene E-lizabeth denounced, sent his letter vnto her Maiestie, in which hee did allowe the Bible, and Booke of Druine service, as it is now vsed amongst vs, to bee authenticke, and not repugnant to truth. But that therein was contayned enough necessary to salvation, though there was not in it, so much as might conveniently bee) and that hee would also allowe it vnto vs, without chaunging any parte: so as her Maiestie would

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acknowledge to receive it from him the Pope, (& by his allowance) which her Maiesty denying to do, the was then presently by the same Pope excomunicated: And this is the truth concerning Pope Pius Quintus, as I haue faith to God and Men . I haue oftentimes heard auowed by the late Queene her owne wordes: And I have conferred with some Lords that were of greatest reckoning in the State, who had seene and read the letter, which the Pope sent to that effect: as haue beene by me speci. fied. And this vpon my credit, as I am an honest

man, is most true.

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By this then all our English Papists, either Iefuites or Seminaries may learne to knowe that it is not Religion that they striue for, but onely to maintaine the Antichristian head of Romes vsurpt supremacie. And if there bee in this presence any Romane Catholicks, or so many of this nation, as shall here of that which hath now beene spoken. I entreate them, as my deare and louing countreymen, that they will no longer bee seduced, by any liuing spirite sent from Rome, the Pope, whom they beleeve, hath himselfe allowed, that in our Church VVee have a doctrine of Faith and Religion, sufficiently necessarie to Saluation: Deere Countreymen, wee have then enough, and neede not the helpe of any Pope, Sythence all the Papilts generally came vnto our Churches before our late Queene Elizabeth was excommunicated.) Against our Dread Soueraigne there is no Excommunication denounced. In Gods name,

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then let vs ioyne in our prayers, and Sacraments, and performe a due obedience to God, and to our King, as we are all of one Nation, so let vs be all of one Church, and Christ being only our head, let vs all desire as in one sheepfold, to be the sanctified

members of his glorious bodie.

If there be any Papists so soolish, and altogether reasonlesse, as to expect that in time his Maiestie may be drawne to such alteration, or Tolleration: as they defire. I will them afforedly to knowe, they hope in vaine, for his Maiestie is, and euer hath bene confidently resoluted in matter of Religion, to continue the selfe same order and profession, which he now professeth. Whereof I will give you an instance, Since the time of the Earle of Northumberlands Imprisonment, there was amongst his papers found a letter, which was obiected against him in Starre Chamber, when himselfe was called vnto his answer: The letter was directed to the Kings Maiestie, that now is, as he was then King of Scotland. In which amongst other things, the Earle had aduised his Highnesse not to desire to bee proclaimed Heire apparant to this Crowne, nor proclaime Prince Henry to be the Prince of VVales, But to stay the time, vntill the Queenes death. And that then he would resolue at his comming to admit vnto the Catholickes a Tolleration for their religion, which he requested, because the Papists did put some trust in him, to Sollicit that businesse in their behalfe. This letter being read, his Maiesties owne answer was shewed (Till that time, by Gods

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owne hand preserved) to signifie vnto the world, his religious vnremoued considence. To the first parte of the Earles letter, his Hignesse answered, that hee had no contrary purpose, but to attend Gods leasure. And for his motion concerning the Catholicks tolleration, he was purposed to come vnto this kingdome in peace. But as touching matter of Gouernment, he was resolved never to alter any thing, either in Church or State. His Maiesties most noble and Kingly resolution, not enduring then to temporize vnder any pretext of humane pollicy. Can it now be thought, that his Highnes will be removed in matter of Religion, from that Station whereupon his Soules salvation standeth built.

Such Papists (as notwithstanding the impossibi. lity of their hope will still remaine peruerse) despising to be admonished: Let them know for certainty, that the lawes concerning them, shall receiue a most strict and seuere execution, you therfore of the Iury, ought to be very carefull in that businesse. And all the instices in their severall Limits, are in their allegiance to the King, bound in conscience to vseall diligence so to observe the Papists, as that vnto their houses, there bee not any lesuites or Seminaries intertayned. For their practile, is to Alienate the hearts of our English Subiects, from the obedience to their soueraigne, In which imployment, though the lesuites bee most notorious, yet I account the Seminarie Priests more dangerous; Because their estimation stealeth to it felfe

felfe a better opinion in the hearts of the simple. Notwithstanding, all their worke is directed to one and the selfe same end; If all good Subiects then shall desire the administration of Instice, according to the Lawes established: they may either be converted or supplanted. By whome our sub. uersion, and vtter supplanting bath so often times beene attempted. I therefore leave them, their actions and proceedings to be judged off, and carefully to be lookt into, by your most mature consideration and best diligence least that our too too much conveniencie, doth yet vntimely bring vppon vs some dangerous mischiefe. Them and their actions therfore are principally in the first place to be enquired of, and that with fuch regard as their cunning may by no meanes outreach the meaning of the Stature Law inacted for their punishment, wherin though there be as much concluded, as the wisedome of our state could deuise, in the preuention of any future euill, yet as I heare the Pope hath already granted such dispensation, as that by their hellish sophistie of equiuocating, they may take a course wherein to deceive our hope of their amendment, but in Gods name let the law prouided, receive a just and faithfull execution, & then doubt not, but their faithlesse Popish policie shall be sufficiently prevented. And that in time the most facred person of Gods anointed King, whom Pope Clement the 9, could proudly dare to tearme the scottish Herstike, shall underneath his Prince. ly foot tread downe Romes faithlesse Papall proud

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and Antichristian heresie, & now in hels despight, vertuous King lames being the Emperiall Maiesty of great Brittains Monarchy, the strength of whole establisht awfull gouernment, makes the proudest Territories & most strong foundation of earths Babilonde to shake, I doubt not but in his royal selfe and his most blest posterity, as is already by force of his commaunding power, not without iust cause fearefully suspected, the destruction of the scarlet whore shall be made certaine to her, and her adulterates, when they together shall bee with wrath destroyed for the accoplishing of which most glorious worke, let all true beleeuing protestants, like faithfull subiects to their lawfull Soueraigne yeelde their best obedience to his highnesse lawes, and thus much concerning Romane Catholikes,

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Those that you are in the second place to enquier of are a second manner of Recusants, though nothing so dangerous as the Popish recusant is, yet are they a Sect not to be tollerated in any Monarchyall gouernment. They are a certaine Brotherhood, which can indure no Bilhops: The originall founder of their schisme, as they now professe, it hath (as some of them lay) turnd an Apostotate, to his first profession, so as now they are ashamed of his name, and will by no meanes in their fraternity be deriued from him, yet they remaine knowne to the world, by the name of Brownings. The most part of them are simple, & Illiterate people. And they together with those of that fort, which seeme to haus learning, are as all the rest, onely arrogant, and wil-

wilfully peruerse, fitter to be reformed by punishment, rather then by argument: And though their ignorance vnderstands not what they doe, yet doe their endeauours striue to shake in sunder the whole frame of our Emperiall government, for if (as they desire) the forme of our Civil Lawes were abrogated, Then should our Common Law, and it of necessity fall togither. For they are so moven and incorporated each in other, as that without the one, the other cannot stand: for example.

An action Reall, beeing brought at common Law, in Bar thereof Bastardy is pleaded, our common Law can then proceed no further, vntill by the civill Law the matter of Bastardy be determined; So is it in the right of a Womans Dowre, and in the tryall of VVills; In all these, and diverse others without the Assistance of the civill Law, the comon Law hath no power to determine. If then the civill Law must of necessity remain, it is no lesse necessary that the judges thereof should be continued.

And againe without the grave assembly of our Reverend Bishops, his Maiesties high court of parliament, should be vnsurnished, no law being there enacted, but that which is by the King, his Lords spirituall and temporall consirmed. These therefore that would have no Bishops amongst vs, do in their desires strive, from his highnes, and the dignity of his State, to pluck the right hand of government, and as much as in them lyeth to break in sunder, the golden frame of sust Authority: for if no Bishops, then no Lawes, if no Lawes, no Kings

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and to this height doth their presumption clime, although their ideot blindnes seems as if they did not understand so much, the mischiese of their schisme is most unsufferable: For neuer was there a nation knowne to sourish having a Monarchie in the kingdome, and a Mallachie in the Church. And therfore you of the Iurie faile not to enquire of all such Sectaries and present them.

It is therefore the faithfull Protestant, that only sets the Crowne vpo our Soueraignes head, & holds it vp so fast, as no opposition can make it shake: and by their loyall hands will Heaven be pleased, to keep it safe from falling, which Mercy in the most Royall issue now established, God for christs his sake costime vnto vs, so long as Sun & Moon endureth.

The last fort of Recusants, though trouble some, (yet in my conscience the least dangerous) are those which do with too much violence, contend against some ceremonies vsed in the Church, with whose indirect proceedings, in mine owne knowledge, his Maiestie is not a little grieued. But I will hope (as his Highnesse doth) that in time, they will grow wife enough to leave their foolishnesse, and confider that ceremonies not against the Analogie of Faith, nor hindring Faiths deuotion, are no such bug-beares as should scar them from the exercises of divine duties, nor cause them to disturbe the peace of our Church, whose gouernment is more consonant to Scripture then all the best reformed Churches at this day in the world. You of the Iurie faile not therefore to enquire of their abuses, which

which do delay to conforme themselues vnto the lawes obedience, that fuch of them as doe growe insolent, may not go vnpunished: And thus much

concerning our three forts of Recufants.

Thus having touched these groning euils, which beeing well confidered, doe cri for iuftice against themselves, threatning (if not suppresse (To make our Comon wealth to grone vnder the burthen of inforc'd calamity. I will now, from them proceed vnto those growing enormities, whose vngouernd hight is alredy to such imperfectio grown, as that the iustice of this kingdomes gouerment, receiveth scandall by their meanes, and the pub-

lick weale grieued by vniust oppression.

I heare a generall complaint against the multiplicity of Ecclesiasticall Courts, and that causes are in them continued longer then an vpright and orderly proceeding would necessarily inforce, by meanes wherof, his Maiesties good subjects, do receiue losse, and are much hindered by their so often constrayned attendance. But in this Diose, I hope the occasion of any such complaint, shall no more be hard of, because I speake before those * The L. Bifhop reverend Magistrates, * in whose authority consist-

and the Chancel eth sufficient power to re forme those abuses alreabeing then present dy complained vpon, I will therfore insist no furwhon the bench. ther, few words content the wife, what I have

spoken, I know is heard by an aproued wisedome. As touching the pennall Statutes for the pui nishing of any vnreuerent demeanure in churches,

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or violence offered to the ministers, or quarrelling stryking, or drawing of any weapon in Church, or Church yard, I know they bee ordinary matters, given in every charge. And therefore you are not ignorant of the Lawes in that case made and promided: I will therefore in respect of the shortnesse of the time, onely point out vnto you some severall officers, whose actions not beeing sufficiently looked into, many abuses are comitted, which do passe

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Our common wealth, Receives much injurie by our Escheators, who by abusing their commission, doe most intollerable wrong, to many of his Maiesties good Subjects, for an Escheator will come into the country, and beeing informed of an honest Teoman deceased, be it that his Lands, bee not aboue the yearly value of forty or fiftie Pounds,& leaving an Heire behind him, an inquiry shall bee made, by what euidence euery acre of ground is holden, and finding but one peece, for which an expresse euidence cannot bee shewed, for that particular parcell, Then by a Iury to that end Summoned by the Escheater, that peece of groud must be adjudged to be held in Capite. And so an office beeing found: all the whole inheritance must bee taynted, and the yong heire a warde to the King, who then beeing presently Begged by some one or other, by then hee hath compounded for his wardship, sued out his livery, and then perhaps marryed to one starke naught, or not worth any thing;

thing, the yong heire shall bee left iust worth so much, and no more: And this (as I thinke) is a most lamentable thing. God forbid that every man shouldbe inforced by such course, to proue his right in every particular acre of ground which he hath. For many particular peeces are oft included in one euidence, without being diftinguished by seuerall names. So that it is impossible, but by fuch course, as the Escheator, takes, lands that neuer held in Capite, must needs be brought in compasse offuch Tenure. And againe, the intent of the Law, for the benefit of the king, looketh only to Manors, Lands, and Tenements of great value, without hauing respect to such petty things. Where an heire to cleare the incumbrance, must ouerthrow his estate, loose his inheritance, and be vidone for euer. But this notwithstanding, so the Escheator may haue his part, in the spoile, he careth not to vie any indirect corruption. You of the Iurie therefore for the good of your felues and yours, carefully looke to the proceedings vsed in this case, and such abuse as you shall find therein, let it be presented. And such as shall bee found offendors, they shall know, that we have lawes to punish them: For proofe whereof, I would you could find out some, of whom there might be made an example: But if you will be content to let the Escheator alone, and not looke vnto his actions, he will bee contented by deceiving you, to change his name, taking vnto himselfe the two last syllables, only with the Ef left out : and fo turne Chetor.

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We have then an excellent Officer, furnamed the Clarke of the Market, concerning whose office, for mine owne part, I see not the necessitie thereof, considering the Iustices of peace in their seuerall limmits, are at euery Sessions to enquire of, and to punish all those abuses which are by the Clarke of the market continued, under shew of reformation. For he will come downe and call before him all waights and measures, and where a fault is found, there must a Fee be payd, which is deuided betwixt him and the Informer: So the offendor payes for his offence, to the end it might be continued, but not reformed. And thus the Clarke of the market by receiving bribes, enricheth himfelfe, by abusing his Maiestieslawes, and wronging his Subjects. It was once my hap to take a Clarke of the market in these trickes: But I aduanst him higher then his fathers fonne; by fo much as from the ground to the toppe of the Pillorie. If you of the Iurie will therefore haue a care to find out these abuses, by Gods grace they shall not goe vnpunished. For we have a Coyfe, which signifies a Scull: whereby in the execution of Iustice, wee are defended against all oppositions, bee they neuer so violent.

There is a certaine ruffling officer, which will feeme to command much by the authoritie of his Comission. And he wilbe known to be a Purueyor. Some of which officers, if they can find nothing to be dealing with, they will puruey mony out of your purses: if you will suffer them. But know there is no money.

mony to be purueyed, valeffe by the high way fide, and any Purueyor that shall take such course, is but

in his passage the high way to the gallowes.

But to speake of that, which may by them bee lawfully done, admit a Purueyor commeth downe with Commission, to take vp timber for the Kings vie; What timber is it then that he wust take: He cannot come and pull downe any timber in my house, what then? May he go into any of my woods which I purpose to preserue, and there marke out of my best timber, and inforce me to suffer it to be felled, and carried away at the kings price? No, There is not any such authoritie granted vnto him. But only thus, If I have any timber felled, which I purpose to sell: then may the Purueyor (the King hauing vse of timber) come and make choise of what trees he will: For there is great reason, that in such case the king should first beserved. But if any of you do defire to preserue your timber growing, be not scared with a Purueyors warrant: Nor do not preserve the standing of your trees by bribing any one of them. The dignitie of his Maiesties prerogative Royall is not vsed to enforce his subjects to indure wrong. But the rust being scoured off, which abused time, hath cast upon it, then will the glorie thereof shine in the perfection of an vncorrupted brightnesse. You of the Iurie therfore looke into the abuses done by Purueyors, and prefent them.

Resides these spoken of. There is also a Salt peter man, whose Commission is not to breake vp any

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mans house or ground without leaue. And not to deale with any house, but such as is vnused for any necessarie imployment by the owner. And not to digge in any place without leauing it smooth and leuell: in such case as he sound it. This Salt-Peter man vndet shew of his authoritie, though being no more then is specified, will make plaine and simple people beleeue, that hee will without their leaue breake up the sloore of their dwelling house, vnlesse they will compound with him to the contrary. Any such selow, if you can meete with all, let his missemenor be presented, that he may be taught better to understand his office: For by the rabuse the countrey is often times troubled.

There is another troublesome sellow called a Concealer, who is indeed little better then a plaine Cossoner, and would in many things be proued so, if well looked vnto, there be many Statute lawes to preuent the occurrence of his mischise, give him not a peny for any of his claimes or titles: For they are meere illusions, and like himselse not worth a-

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There be 4 forts of people, whom if you obserue, you shall find not any of them to thriue. I have alwayes knowne them little better then beggers, and may easily be knowne by these names. A Conceater of whom I have spoken: vnto whom is rightly ioyned a Promotet, a Monopolitan, and an Alcumst: The Prmoter is both a begger and a knawe, and may, if well looked vnto, in the part of an Informer (For many abuses) by your information eyther

ther be well punished or reformed. Their Office, I confesse, is necessarie: And yet it seldome happeneth, that an honest man is imployed therein: yet there is some hope, that by punishing their abuses, they may at the last bee made honest against their wils. In which imployment, you of the Iurie shall

do well tovse a respective diligence.

As touching the Monopolitane, hee for the most part vseth at a deare rate to pay for his soolishnes: For some of that profession, have bene so wise, to sell twentie, thirtie, or perhaps fortie pound land a yeare, and bestow most part of the money in purchasing of a Monopolie: Thereby to anoy and hinder the whole Publicke VVeale for his owne privat benefit: In which course he so well thriveth, as that by toyling some short time, either in Starch, Vineger, or Aquanita, he doth in the end thereby purchase to himselse an absolute beggerie, and for my owne part, their purposes and practises considered, I can wish ynto them no better happinesse.

But then our golden Foole the Alcumist, he will be striving to make Gold and Silver, vntill he leaves himselfe not worth a pennies weight in either of both. I will not deny, but to understand the nature, quintessence, & spirit of the Minerals, out of them to extract a Metaphisicall and Paracelsian manner of Physicke, may according to art be commendable, but by the studie of Alcumie, to desire to turne impersect mettals into Gold and Silver, such labour I account ridiculous: and oftentimes by those of this Cumicall Science is Fellony comitted:

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For by any imperfect commixture, to vse multiplication, either in Gold or Siluer, is directly Fellonie by Statute Law: you of the Iurie are therefore to enquire of such offendors, and present them.

Because I must hast vnto an end, I wil request that you will carefully put in execution the Statute against Vagarants: Since the making whereof, I have found sewer theeues, and the Gaole lesse pestered then before.

The abuse of Stage players, wherewith I find the Countrey much troubled, may easily be reformed: They having no Commission to play in any place without leave: And therefore, if by your willingnesse they be not entertained you may soone be rid of them.

You are also concerning Innes and Alehouses diligently to observe what the Statute Lame determineth. As also to keep the orders set down by my henorable predecessor, concerning which, there is now by the appointment of the Lords of the Counfel, certaine Briefes to be deliuered vnto all the Iustices in their seuerall Lummits. And assuredly, if you of the Iurie, pettie Constables, Chiefe Constables, and Iustices of Peace, would together labour that the Lawes carefully Enacted for our good, might receive a a due and iust execution, abuses would then bee reformed, God and our King faithfully served and honored. And the tranquillitie of our Publicke weale preserved: which so great happinesse, that it may the better be accomplished, I would request, that all imployed in any place of authoritie, would have an speciall care to suppresse that root of euill, from whence

whence all mischiefs do proceed, and that is Idlenes: For idle persons are those of whom the Psalme speaketh, They doe wickedly all the day long, they imagine wickednes upon their beds, the imaginations of their harts are euill continually, and such for the most part are all those, given ouer to an idle disposition: who by their wickednes do make themselues worse then beasts: For, Homo malus infinitis modis plura mala perpetrauerit quam bestia, an euill man by an infinit manner committeth more euill then a beaft. For the reformation of which dangerous euill: you shall do well to have an especiall eie vnto the company that frequent Tauerns, Innes, Alchouses, Bouling allies and fuch like thriftles places of refort, where you shall find Trad semen and Artificers,, which have no other meanes whereby to live, then onely the lawfull vie of their Science, or Manuall profession. And yet such is their vnthriftie idlenesse, as they will spend their time and labors profit, at some, or all the places before recited: whilest their wives and childern fit at home and weepe, wanting neceffarie maintenance: Those of such condition; let them be inquired of and presented: For were the Iustice of the Lawerightly executed uppon such offendors (they receiving condigne punishment for their offence) would be inforced to betake them selues vnto a better course of life, and line as becometh good Subicts in the lift of a more commended obedience.

Of that idle company, you shall also finde some of our accounted Gallants young Gentlemen, vp.

stars, perhaps honest yeomens sonnes, that by their intemperate Ryote, loue to spend their inheritance before they come to inherit, and being questioned for their chargeable and expensive manner of liuing, they will branely answer that they spend nothing but their owne: And will seeme as if they scorn'd to be reformed by admonition or authoritie. The law prouideth a courfe whereby to teach fuch vain & idle ryotors fo to spend, that they may keepe their own: For when by their misdemenor all their owne is spent; Then their next course is to live vpon the goods of others: and then at last, such Gallants turning starke theeues, do make their last period at the Gallowes, reaping to themselues, by an vntimely death, the fruit of idlenesse.

There is also a fort of idle seeming Gentlemen, whom if you do obserue, you shall find them walking with a gray-hound in a flip, or a birding peece vpon their necke, and they for footh will make a path ouer the Statute Law, and into any mans Grounds, Lordsbips, or Liberties, passe and repasse at their pleasure: As if it were lawfull for enery Fellow to keepe a Gray-hound, and to hunt, when and where he lifteth, or as if a birding peece were no Gunne, and so not included in the Statute made

against Gunnes.

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But if you would find out those fellowes, and present them, they shall be taught to know themselues: And that the wisedome of a Kingdomes State, in the framing of a Statute Law, could not be deluded by a vaine & shallow brain'd idlenesse of their ridi-

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ridiculous Foolery. Let them be therfore punished whose misdemenor in this case offendeth.

The better to prevent the Ryotous expence of vnthriftie idlenesse, you shall do well to have a speciall care vnto the Statute for Apparell, by the neglect

whereof too much abuse is nourished.

As touching all the abuses last recited, have great respect to punish one abuse, in which all our idle Gallants and disordered disolutes do desire to swim, vntill themselues, and their whole estate do finke, in the Slymie dregs of Swinelike drunkennes, to drunkards therefore haue especiall heed, you know the Lawe prouideth for their punishmet, & were such offendors duly presented, Indited, Fined, & imprisoned, they may by fuch good meanes be in time haply refined from that contagious evill, their continuall amisse, beeing continually with Iuftice punished, to the vtter suppressing of such vild occasion: From whence as fro Hels mouth flames forth, Ryoats, murthers, man-flanghters, quarrels, fightings, whoredemes, and presumptuous blashemies, all proceeding from that finke of fin, in whose sick healths is dronke the bodies Surfiting, and the Soules damnation. In this, as in all the rest of the abuses specified, vse your best indeauors for the furtherance of a settled Reformation, according to the Lawes established: For you must know, that Vita O, vigor Iuris, in execucione consistit, The life and strength of the Laws consisteth in the execution of them: For in vaine are iust lawes Inacted, if not iustly excuted.

And now my louing Countrey men, because I would that all which I have spoken, may receive

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a profitable remembrance. I will thus conclude, Similes and Comparisons doe best confirme our vnderstanding and do fastest cleave vnto the memorie; my conclusion therefore, shall consist upon this one Similitude.

There was a certain man, who having a great account to make vnto a mightie King, made triall of his best Friends, that might accompany him, in that dangerous iourney, and not forfake him vntill his account were made. This man ypon his Inquisition found one friend that would go with him a great part of the way, but then forfake him. And that was his (Riches.) Some other Friends he found that would goe with him untill he came in fight of the Kings pallace, but then they would also leave him and be are him company no further, all these Friends were his wife and children, that would follow him to his graue. But at last, he found one Friend that would go with him into the presence of the King, and not for fake him, vntill he had seene his account made, and for ever beare the greatest part with him, either in woe, or happinesse, and this Friend was his Conscience; Deare Countrymen betwixt God and your Consciences therefore, make your peace, for he is the King, vnto whom all of vs must make a strickt account of all our actions dones This then considered, such would be our care, as God and our King should be obeyed, and our peace in this life, and in the world to come preferued. Vnto which eternall grace be we all in Iesus Christ committed.

FINIS.